



THE BELL RINGER

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MONTGOMERY BELL ACADEMY

NOVEMBER 21, 1989

Fine Arts Club Produces Talent Show

by John Tector
staff reporter

As I strolled towards the main door of Wallace Hall, I could not help being reminded of George Cooper's "October's Party." The leaves by hundreds did come, and the perfect scene was set for an event of voluminous proportions, namely, the Fine Arts Club's presentation of "Bachelors of Art", MBA's first talent show since 1974. I came prepared for a magnificent display of talent and received just that.

Throughout the school year, the Fine Arts Club, with the incessant aid of Mrs. Christeson, has prepared and

promoted the idea of a talent show at MBA, and it was due specifically to their efforts that the first talent show in fifteen years came off as such a success.

The professionalism of the backstage crew of Pieter Foster, Steve Anderson, and Asher Dudley kept the show running smoothly; while the acts themselves provided the large crowd of faculty, parents, and students with a great Sunday afternoon.

The judges were Judy McCord from the Circle Theater and Belmont College, Trish Woolwine, wife of Skip Woolwine (a.k.a. Dave

Letterman), and Martha Goodman from the Academy Theater.

The actual setup of the stage was based on that of *Late Night with David Letterman* with Skip Woolwine, a former MBA graduate, as Dave and the ever-present Mauro Mastrapasqua as Paul Schaefer.

A plethora of talented personages, however, was what the show was really about, and with actors, guitarists, pianists, and a mime, the entertainment was non-stop.

The performers were Dan Brooks and Lee Page on bass and 6-string, respectively; Matt Foster, a mime; Mauro Mastrapasqua on piano; James Nash on guitar; Andrew Duthie on B-flat clarinet; Rob Lentz, Lee Page, Carter McNabb, and Alden Smith with a brilliant performance of "Count Floyd's Scary Stories;" Simon Westlake and Eric Falk with a Vietnam war drama, "A Death in the Family;" Chris Tapia singing Billy Joel's "Just the Way You Are;" Rod MacPherson and that wild metallic-blue guitar; Greg Parker with a classic medley on guitar; Sandy Olejniczak on cello accom-

panied by Marion Ross; and Victor Borge (a.k.a. Dr. Paschall) with a tantalizing display of piano keyboard knowledge as well as a thorough examination of "Mary Had a Little Lamb." (Larry Vranka was scheduled to appear, but he was rehabilitating at the time.)

Dan Brooks and Lee Page with their original guitar tune excited the crowd and finished third, sharing the 25 dollar prize. Matt Foster displayed the aging of a man and silently accepted 50 dollars for his second place finish. Finally, Mauro Mastrapasqua, president of the Fine Arts Club, brought the house down with his mastery of the piano when he performed Brahms' "Capriccio" and brought home 100 dollars for a first place finish.

Skip Woolwine tried hard not to steal the show but often

did with such "Top Ten" items as Rambo librarians from Hell, History Room rug rolling, Mrs. Simmons' singing "Pennies from Heaven," and Dr. Paschall's laughing uncontrollably in assembly.

I believe that Mrs. Christeson summed up the talent show best when she said that "...it's a wonderful chance for the boys to showcase their abilities to the school... I hope it starts a new trend."



Devraj Basu

Lee Page and Dan Brooks play an original composition that won them third place in the the Fine Arts Club's talent show.



Devraj Basu

Matt Foster's two mime performances in the talent show won him second place.

Recycling Program Commences on the Hill

by Rob Lentz
writer

With all the recent problems that have been bothering this community concerning garbage, it has become apparent that recycling refuse is the wave of the future. Indeed, the picturesque Bordeaux landfill is at this very moment piling up to its grimy brim with the filth, muck, and discarded waste of our disposable Middle Tennessee society. This problem exists simply because no community with running water is willing to have Nashville's trash buried in its backyard.

Meanwhile, prudent and

spendthrift Mayor Boner has cut back on funds for garbage collection, leaving much of our fair city with bulging trash cans on our corners, susceptible to the whims of hungry woodland creatures and thrill-seeking teenaged drivers. Well, in view of the substantial problems of waste management, recycling has become a practical and even profitable solution to dumping trash into a hole into the ground.

Recycling puts discarded waste material to good use: most any type of paper or cardboard, aluminum cans, glass of all kinds and colors,

even plastic bottles and containers can be recycled and converted into useful materials, products that save innocent trees and a great deal of expense for manufacturers, and reduce our own burden of garbage.

Why, even here on the campus of Montgomery Bell Academy, we have aspired to strike a blow in the direction of recycling the refuse of the world. Acting upon the suggestions of Mr. Moxley and in the spirit of the fine work of the Junior class in its attempts to recycle aluminum cans, the Student Council under Alden Smith has authorized the

placement of cardboard boxes in strategic locations around the MBA campus. These boxes are to serve as receptacles for any unwanted non-waxed paper items (e.g., notebook paper, computer paper, discarded lunch bags, etc.), which will then be collected and recycled, reaping great profits for the school, the environment, and the world.

Student Council president Alden Smith told The Bell Ringer, "The guys up front really played well. Our offense was struggling, but the defense really came through for us. What was the

question?" Of the recycling project, Smith said, "It has the potential to be worthwhile, but only if each individual contributes to the effort. Individuals make up the whole, as you know."

This small step may seem insignificant to the careless student/casual paper discarder, but it is an important step in the awareness of a major modern environmental problem and what can be done about it by us. Hopefully, the school's recycling project is only the beginning of its concern for the future of the environment.

please see Recycling on page six

OPINIONS

Flag Burning - Constitutional Right or Crime?

Flag Burning is a Constitutional Right

by David Lott

Copy Editor

The decision rests on the fact that flag desecration is protected by the First Amendment as a form of symbolic speech.

Justice William Brennan stated that "we do not consecrate the flag by punishing its desecration, for in doing so we dilute the freedom that this cherished emblem represents," and that "our decision is a re-affirmation of the principles of freedom and inclusiveness that the flag best reflects."

Thus the burning of the flag may be interpreted as a patriotic demonstration of man's rights, although it is unlikely that a patriotic American would burn a flag; conservative Justice Anthony Kennedy reluctantly remarked, however, that "it is poignant but fundamental that the flag protects those who hold it in contempt."

Perhaps the ruling would have been different if flag burning could be shown to infringe upon the rights of other people. Chief Justice William Rehnquist stated, "Surely one of the high purposes of a democratic society is to legislate against conduct that is regarded as evil and profoundly offensive to the majority of people," but Brennan argued, "If there is a bedrock principle underlying the First Amendment, it is that the Government may not prohibit the expression of an idea simply because society finds the idea itself offensive or disagreeable."

The American flag belongs to all Americans, but the cloth, paper, wood, etc. upon which the flag is printed is private property and subject to the owner's whims. Does the desecration of the flag by one man infringe upon the rights of another? I do not think so.

George Bush is pushing for an alteration to the First Amendment, a new amendment prohibiting flag desecration. The consequences of such an amendment are complex. What would a loyal American do then if his flag accidentally touched the ground? Should he honor Old Glory by burning her and risk arrest? What would happen to someone wearing the flag design on clothing? A new amendment would need to treat these and similar situations. Such an amendment is uncalled-for and would probably do little to increase the dying American patriotism. Let us therefore seek not to withhold the Constitutional rights of others, but let us seek rather to show a positive patriotic support for the Land of the Free by flying our own Star-spangled Banners wave with pride and honor.

(Time, vol. 134, no. 1, July 3, 1989)

Flag Burning is a Crime

by Alex Rogers

writer

An un-uniformed man in 1774 raises a piece of red and white striped cloth with thirteen stars on a blue background and shouts a battle cry of freedom. A redcoat standing twenty paces away fires a musket and guns the man down. The un-uniformed man has died fighting for freedom and liberty, and the piece of cloth, the first image of our flag, was the embodiment of the rebellion.

We all know that America won its revolution and adopted a constitution and a bill of rights. The first amendment of the constitution states that no law shall be made by congress abridging the freedom of speech or the press. This amendment does not state that all public expressions are legal. Those expressions which harm others are expressly forbidden. The question remains, however, what constitutes harm to

wards others. Does the harm have to be slander, or can it relate to harming the image of others than the transgressor. This introduction leads into the true point of this article. Should flag burning be legal?

In answer to this question I must answer with a resounding NO. The first point to be made is that flag burning harms others. It harms the image of Americans everywhere. If flag burning is legal, then all the times terrorists have burned our flag as a symbol of their hate for all that the United States of America stand for means nothing because we have demonstrated by tolerating the burning of our own flag that we care nothing for our own values. Flag burning also gives licence to anyone to show contempt to the U.S. by burning our flag. In effect, this is aiding and abetting an enemy of the U.S., and

please see Anti-Flag Burning on page three



Pieter Foster

Please note the special enhancement of the photograph by NASA scientists relieving our boys from blame.

Ringer Photograph Was Deceiving

by a student poor in grammar and writing skills

On October 23, Mr. Drake asked Kevin Kruse and David Haslam into his office. Perhaps he wished to congratulate them on yet another stunning cheerleading performance or a great homecoming photography backdrop, but it was something much more grave.

Several weeks earlier, en route to the Hunter's Lane football game, Kristen Kneeland, Kevin Kruse, Lee Page, Larry Vranka, and David Haslam ran into difficulties involving their exact location. With Larry's pitiful navigation, poor Kristen drove all over Nashville, desperately searching for the game. They would be still driving today had they not have asked Earl (of "Earl's Eats, Gas, and Antiques") for proper directions.

To make a long story short (trite phrase: -5), the Accord packed full of cheerleaders and Larry arrived at the game late in the second

quarter. Luckily, both of the fans did not seem to mind their tardiness.

Toward the end of the victorious game, ace photographer and personal friend of mine Pieter Foster snapped a picture to remember the moment. Taking a humorous side to the situation which had just occurred previously to the game (as those zany cheerleaders are prone to do), the guys (slang: -5) pointed at Kristen, acknowledging the cause of their tardiness. (Larry Vranka, who was the true cause of the disaster, was using the public facilities and was therefore not pictured.)

Pieter's photo was published in *The Bell Ringer's* October 19th, 1989 issue on the back page. It sent a panic so widespread that some analysts in New York feared another stockmarket crash and subsequent depression. (Hal Jones decided to stay home sick).

Friends, alumni, teachers, and parents (especially Beth Rather's), please remember that appearances can

be deceiving and in this case absolutely false. The reprint of the photograph is poor, and with the turtle-necks the girls were wearing and the flash's reflection on all the cheerleaders' skin being so bright, the two appear to merge.

Believe me; I, an unbiased party, can honestly vouch for the characters of Kevin and Dave (needless to say of Beth). I know that they would never do anything so vulgar and crude (in public). I know David in particular. He is a bright, upstanding boy gentleman with a real direction and a drive to work hard. He would make an excellent addition to any college or university he attends. Kevin is pretty good, too.

In conclusion, I only hope these fine gentlemen can ride out the rough seas of the scandalous spotlight.

Sincerely,

A concerned body who does not wish to see rumors persist against those two great guys Kevin and Dave.

THE BELL RINGER

For the student who sleeps during assembly.

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OPINIONS & FEATURES

Is Our Cafeteria Overcharging?

by Jason Ritchason
writer

That's right! The cafeteria at our own Montgomery Bell Academy has been charging us sixty-five cents for a ten ounce cup of Coke, not including ice. This means each student who pays for his beverage is getting approximately six to eight fluid ounces of cola depending on the amount of ice he puts in his drink.

The overall change from Belle Meade Cafeterias catering to regionally known and operated Bonds, Inc. food corporation is that prices have basically stayed the same. However, Bonds offers a greater variety of foods but these varieties are not available to the public every day.

When I personally brought the beverage problem to the manager of the cafeteria, she took it with some hostility and said that the sixteen ounce reading on the menu given to each student on registration day was a typographical error.

Much to her dismay, I found that it was not simply a "typo." St. Cecilia, whose cafeteria is also operated by Bonds, has the same thing on their menu. St. Cecilia, however, serves the sixteen ounce cup.

"Why does MBA get cheated of six fluid ounces?" you are asking yourself. I shall tell you why.

Last year, two of our students raised the issue of our decreasing ozone layer. It has been proved that the materials used to make Styrofoam are one of the contributing factors to this disintegration of the ozone. John Henry Rice and Willie Johnson made a strong argument to the school and cafeteria, and both decided to

switch to paper cups, whose materials pose no impending effects on the ozone layer to this day. The cost and change of the operation would be minimal, so it was ratified.

As of now, we are paying one cent per dozen paper cups bought, which is a twenty-four to twenty-eight dollar increase over the price of Styrofoam cups, which is minimal in respect to the total gross for one day of purchase. When I asked another member of the cafeteria staff about the problem, he said that "the reason why we charge more for the Coke is this price of the cup." So it seems that both of their excuses are false.

Another issue is the right for the student to bring his own lunch and/or Coke to school. When I talked to Dr. Paschall about this problem, he said that "We're not going to force people to eat [the food for sale] in the lunch room," which is perfectly correct. But to those of us who do not bring our own lunch and are forced to buy it at the somewhat monopolized cafeteria, it seems to be very unfair.

Don't worry! The cafeteria is not completely oblivious to authority. The school handles and agrees to changes in the prices of our cafeteria and our student government has a strong say so, too. As Dr. Paschall said, "We're trying to make it as convenient as possible for you and you have the options [to bring lunches from home]."

I hope this article points out to each student is that if he is getting "ripped off," and does like it, he should let someone know who will make a difference. A compromise in our favor will hopefully prevail in the end.

Sundius Fights Against Leukemia

by David Daniels
staff writer

Unpredictability. Sudden Death. Prolonged pain. Youth or adult. Leukemia. In many respects similar to the deadly disease AIDS, Leukemia is a severe medical complication destroying innocent individuals across the United States. This plague is believed to be a result of heredity, radiation exposure, chemotherapy, or even over-the-counter drugs, all of which damage the victim's bone marrow. Leukemia replaces valuable, conducive cells with cancer cells, thereby subjecting one to disease; and the absence of enough necessary, white blood cells leaves the person defenseless. Some individuals have taken it upon themselves to help fund and thus further the research of Leukemia: Freshman Bo Sundius is one of the unselfish, concerned individuals supporting this cause.

Bo first became affiliated with the Leukemia Society six years ago while swimming in a league. The brief visit by this Society immediately sparked the interest and enthusiasm of young Sundius. Through the years, as he began accepting pledges for swimming 100 laps, Bo learned more about this usually treatable disease and how it affects the body. Although he plans to own his own business some day, this dedicated athlete intends to raise in the summer as much money through pledges as possible as well as to become an even better, stronger swimmer,

with more speed drawing more funds. To date, Bo Sundius has amassed thirty thousand dollars for this special cause.

His accomplishments have been well-noticed and recognized. The widely-publicized Bo Sundius Day, October 17 of 1988, was established on the same date this year. In addition to this proclamation of Mayor Bill Boner, Bo was honored by Governor McWherter with Tennessee's Outstanding Achievement Award, an accomplishment of which Bo could be proud. This unique freshman hopes, moreover, that he will be the recipient of the prestigious "Senior National Tops," an award which would guide him to the college of his choice - Stanford. His overall goal, however, is to be in the same position of awarding an honorable youth as was Tracy Caulkins, whom he highly regards as "the strongest woman swimmer in history."



Swimmer Tracy Caulkins presents Bo Sundius the Tennessee Outstanding Achievement Award and the proclamation for Bo Sundius Day.

...Anti-Flag Burning

cording to Article three, section three of the constitution that act is treason (The section

states "Treason against the United States shall consist only in levying war against them, or in adhering to their enemies, giving them aid or comfort.")

On an emotional level, I would argue that each flag burned shows an unforgivable lack of respect for those who died defending this country. Regardless of whether a U.S. citizen likes the U.S. or not, that person still reaps the benefits of U.S. citizenship. It is not fair for that person to attach the stigma of contempt to every U.S. citizen since others value the same citizenship.

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FEATURES

World Series Recap

by Brent Miller

reporter

The Oakland Athletics proved to be the dominant team of 1989. After one of the greatest upsets in 1988 by the Los Angeles Dodgers, the A's led by Rickey and Dave Henderson crushed the San Francisco Giants in a four game sweep.

In game one, Scott Garrelts of the Giants faced Dave Stewart of the A's. Garrelts had an unimpressive start while Stewart overpowered the Giants to lead the A's to a 5 - 0 victory while allowing only 5 hits.

In game two, Rick Reuschel of the Giants saw the likes of Mike Moore on the mound for the A's as once again the A's triumphed over the Giants 5 - 1 while Moore allowed only 4 hits.

Before game three could get underway an earthquake measuring 7.0 on the Richter scale ripped through the Bay Area leaving a path of destruction in its wake. As everyone realized the reality of this nightmare, baseball Commissioner Faye Vincent summed up the importance of the World Series at this time by referring to it as "a modest little sporting event." The Series was then postponed a week so the citizens of the

Bay Area could rebuild the city as well as their lives.

On October 27, with only about 70 people of the sellout crowd redeeming their tickets for the money refund, the Series was resumed at Candlestick Park with Dave Stewart facing Scott Garrelts, again.

Both teams helped to set a new record for the most home runs in one game by both teams with 7. The members of each team who helped to attain this record are as follows: San Francisco's Matt Williams and Bill Bathe, who became the twenty-first player to hit a home run in his first Series at-bat; Oakland's Dave Henderson with two homers, Tony Phillips, Jose Canseco, who at his previous at-bat had broken his twenty-third consecutive hitless Series at-bat, and Carney Lansford.

As a result of the extensive number of home runs hit by the A's, they were the victors.

The opening of game four saw Ron Robinson on the mound for the first time in this Series because of the unexpected injury of Rick Reuschel during the Giant's batting practice, while the A's placed game two winner Mike Moore on the hill. After

a heated battle, the A's were victorious, thus concluding their four game sweep of the San Francisco Giants and tagging themselves with the title the "best in 20 years."

The 1989 World Series saw Rickey Henderson smash several Series individual records for a four game Series such as: most stolen bases (3), most triples (2), and most at-bats (19). At the same time he, Dave Henderson, and Dave Stewart compiled some of the most impressive statistics of the decade. Rickey ended the Series with 9 hits, 1 double, 2 triples, 1 home run, and a team-leading batting average of .474. Dave Henderson ended the Series with 4 hits, 2 doubles, 2 home runs, and a batting average of .308. Dave Stewart compiled statistics that were so impressive he received the 1989 World Series MVP award. Dave ended the Series with 2 games pitched, 2 wins, 0 losses, 14 strike outs, 10 hits allowed, 3 runs allowed, 2 walks, and an earned run average of 1.69.

So in the shadow of their upset in the 1988 World Series, the Oakland Athletics were able to show everyone that they could escape adversity and have one of the most impressive Series showings in baseball history.

THE DRUG WAR

COMMENTARY

by Babu Parachuri

staff writer

President Bush won many supporters when he initially presented his multi-billion dollar plan to attack the nation's drug problem and, with the advice of William Bennett, tried more innovative ways to attack the problem such as stiffer penalties for casual drug use and boot camps for the rehabilitation of young drug users. The plan came at a time when the violence resulting from drug gangs and the number of hard users are at a peak; it is doubtful, however, that the plan will have a significant impact on the drug problem.

One facet of the program is an attack on the drug supply in Peru, Bolivia, and Colombia through interdiction, eradication, and economic aid. Unfortunately, if past interdiction and eradication efforts are any indication, drug barons will simply move from one place to another as they are sought by the military. This movement may only spread the drug trade to other areas. In addition, these efforts have increased the discontent of peasants who derive their primary sources of income from the drug trade. In a country such as Bolivia, where the drug trade brings in nearly \$400 million in revenue, revolution would be inevitable if the drug supply were actually lessened. The present policy of the Bush administration and Congress, though politically popular, has failed to put any dent in the supply that seems to grow larger every year. During recent drug raids by the Colombian government, success has increased in cutting off the drug supply of cocaine; however, there have been costs, with many leading government officials assassinated by drug barons. Many foreign policy experts have been critical of the U.S. government's lack of financial support for these countries' search for alternative crops and sources of income.

Unless the harsh economic conditions of these countries are mitigated, a decline in the drug trade is unlikely. Geopolitical interests must be kept in mind when encouragement of military action by highly unstable Latin American governments is given. Bush and Congress seem to be taking a step in the right direction with their slight shift of their focus of the drug war towards the demand side over the supply side.

On the demand side, Bush has proposed stiffer penalties for casual drug users and dangerous drug dealers: for the casual user there are punishments such as the loss of driver's licenses and longer sentences for incarceration; and for the youth, Bennett, former Secretary of Education, suggests reduction of federal student loans and mandatory drug education for users. Under the plan, drug education and treatment will increase with the treatment focused on hard users. Capacity expansion of federal prisons by 15% will allow judges to incarcerate the drug dealers for greater periods of time, although the deterrence value of such primitive policies is dubious at best. Prisons may even encourage further recidivism because they serve as schools of crime in which criminals are exposed to new criminal activities. The positive aims of the plan are enormously popular but do nothing to assuage the conditions that have led to drug use and drug sales. The poverty of the inner cities has gradually increased and economic opportunities for blacks remain in short supply. Greater incarceration may only perpetuate black impoverishment that has caused young blacks to turn to drug dealing to escape the hopeless cycle of poverty of the inner cities. The fervor with which the public urges on the drug crusade may well be a sign of a society in turmoil that cannot seem to find the way to win the drug war.



William Hastings, Drew Heitzler, and Carter McNabb pose during this year's Homecoming.

This year, the Mother's Auxiliary had to resort to raising money solely through Spaghetti Supper tickets, after a law banning lotteries in Tennessee was passed last summer.

photo: Pieter Foster



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ENTERTAINMENT



King Arthur and Mr. Neutron - Graham Chapman

by Jim Haines

Entertainment Editor

In 1969, Graham Chapman, a Cambridge-educated physician, joined the British comedy group *Monty Python*. The group was a multi-talented group with a specialty for black humor and satire. With Chapman and business management consultant John Cleese, cartoonist Terry Gilliam, actor Eric Idle, author Terry Jones, and actor Michael Palin.

The Flying Circus was Monty Python's first assault on the government, and, of course, the BBC. Chapman's roles varied greatly on this show. He often played a stuffy, officious, who terminated skits that became "too silly," and very tall women with high-pitched screaming voices. Other roles involved a demanding flying instructor who hangs from a wire from the ceiling and claims that he's flying Mr. Neutron the most powerful man in the universe, and Oliver Smithy-Smith, who dis-qualified himself from the Twit of the Year Contest by

running over himself.

The first Monty Python movie was ... *And Now for Something Completely Different*. Since this movie was a reproduction of *Flying Circus* skits, Chapman had the same roles as in *The Flying Circus*.

In *The Holy Grail*, Chapman was King Arthur, who rides with his trusty mount Patsy (Terry Gilliam) through England in search of the Grail. In order to pass the knights who say "NI," Arthur and his knights must obtain two shrubberies. Then Arthur must cut down the largest tree in the forest with a herring. Arthur found this task "too silly" and left. Unfortunately, Arthur and Bedevere (Terry Jones) are arrested by a knight and the movie ends.

Chapman was Brian in *The Life of Brian*. He was a confused Jew who joined the Jewish People's Front (not the Popular Front of India). Brian was captured by the Roman government and sentenced to crucifixion by Pontius Pilot (Michael Palin). Chapman was also Pilot's sweet friend in *Women*

who had a shur (i.e., he had a wife you know see author for explanation - ed).

Anyway, the last Python film was *The Meaning of Life*. Chapman was a well-off Protestant who did not object to buying a French tickler while the poor Catholics (Michael Palin and Terry Jones) believed that "every poem is sacred" and had hundreds of children. Chapman was also a man who chose his death - to be chased to a cliff by topless rollerskating women.

While the other Pythoners produced, directed, and acted in other movies (*Jabberwocky*, *The Misanthrope*, *Clockwise*, *A Fish Called Wanda*, *Brick*, *The Adventures of Baron Munchausen*, *Eric the Viking*, and any other that I haven't seen), Chapman did not do anything else outside of his medical practice. Larry Vranka told me he was an alcoholic and had a male lover, but do you trust Larry? Earlier this year, Chapman contracted throat and spinal cancer. He died at the age of forty-nine.

HooDoo Gurus in Concert at Vandy

by Kevin Kruse

staff writer

A wee bit back, I had the distinct pleasure of being a part of a lively conversation in the spacious MBA parking lot. One member of our circle was a teacher at MBA - Let's call her "Jane" (Jane isn't her real name. Her real name is Barbara Waugh). "Jane" was asking us about the upcoming HooDoo Gurus concert, which we were all planning to attend. She had never heard of them before and asked us if they were at all like John Denver. "Not even close," Jane.

After spending all Saturday morning working on the homecoming tapestries, I headed out to the fabulous Vanderbilt Memorial Stadium. Larry Vranka drove, so we were, of course, late as usual. Sadly, we missed the opening act - The Connells, but according to my vast sources (Chris Wayburn and Chris Petrie), the Connells were "real good." What else can I say?

We moseyed in at a quarter past nine, in between acts. Anxious to find our seats and extricate any loafers therein, we waded through the knee-deep bacchanalia to get settled in.

With "Axe Grinder," the Gurus exploded in a fury of

sound that kept even Larry attentive. Dave Faulkner led his troops through favorites such as "Good Times," "Dig It Up," "I Want You Back," "Mars Needs Guitarists!," "In The Middle of the Land," and "What's My Scene," as well as launching into tracks off their new album *Magnum Cum Louder*, such as "Come Anytime" and "Death in the Afternoon." The Gurus were in great form and eager to please. They even asked for and played an audience request, "Tojo," early into the set.

Our ears began to throb due to the 1,000 dB speaker output, so, under the advice of David Haslam and Rob Murphy, we dragged Larry, who kept moaning "The horror! The horror!" up to the balcony. From here, we could see the entire band (Faulkner, Clyde Bramley, Mark Kingsmill, and Brad Shepherd) and actually listen to them without pain. From our new vantage point, we saw the entire crowd (those who could still stand, at least) screaming and dancing to exhaustion. I haven't seen a concert this good since the '82 Village People reunion at Shea Stadium.

B-52's Cosmic Thing

by Kevin Kruse

staff writer

Before Athens, Georgia spawned the supergroup R.E.M., an alternative college band called the B-52's emerged as a cross between the Jetsons and John Water's film *Hairspray*. *Cosmic Thing*, their latest album, has finally drawn widespread attention to the band.

The album is a collection of day-glo funk and mellow melodies that comment on everything from television and love to freedom and laziness. The only problem I have

with the album is the lead vocals of Fred Schneider. As background vocals, he's okay, but once he takes the lead, the song becomes distracting. His voice becomes effeminate and yet loud and deep.

The vocals of Kate Pierson and Cindy Wilson more than make up for his short comings, as they can sound as angelic, deep, or rough as the songs call for. Their harmony is so intense at points that they blend into one voice. The alternating soul and sweetness of their voices and the

quasi-country twang of Keith Strickland's guitar are what will make "Love Shack" the B-52's greatest hit to date.

"Deadbeat Club" uses the girls' harmony and the near absence of Schneider's vocals to create a beautiful and simple commentary on social outclass. The title track "Cosmic Thing" is a classic B-52's tone, sounding closely similar to their "Rock Lobster." "Channel Z" is like "Pee Wee Herman meets Andy Warhol" in which Schneider dominates with his ranting and mind-bending

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"Hallucinations" Only in The Bell Ringer

vocals. It's like pop art vocalized in a twisted way.

With the exception of a couple of songs on which the bizarreness overwhelmed me, I enjoyed the album. The cynical irreverence, similar in topic to the Dead Milkmen

and They Might Be Giants, is somewhat dampened on some tracks but still shines through every now and then. The B-52's need to rid themselves of Schneider and focus on the harmonies of Wilson and Pierson.

ENTERTAINMENT & FEATURES

B.A.D. - Megatop Phoenix

by Oman Sloan

Sports Editor

For the past five years, Mick Jones, the former band-leader of The Clash, has been very busy with his new band Big Audio Dynamite. With the help of Don Letts, Leo "E-Zee-Kill" Williams, Greg Roberts, and Dan Donovan, Mick had continued to refine the rock/disco sound of the band. The first two albums, *This Is Big Audio Dynamite* and *No. 10 Upping St.*, leaned toward Fifties style rock 'n' roll, while their third, *Tighten Up Vol. 88*, was a radical swing toward a synthesized disco sound.

During and after the first three were various problems which prevented the group from having the following of fans it deserved in the U.S. Restrictions imposed by the U.S. government made playing live in the U.S. very difficult. Well, this past year, because of the growing popularity of B.A.D., the band is now able to enter the U.S. as a band.

Also, something which almost spelled the end of the band was Mick's bout with pneumonia. He came down with it last year, and it practically destroyed his voice. But Mick got through it and miraculously, with the help of speech therapists and singing lessons, he still has his singing voice.

Big Audio Dynamite has just released their fourth album and it truly fits its title. *Megatop Phoenix* consumes the band's rock and reggae background and its disco/synthesizer experiments. The album starts off with "Start," a quick sample from a movie followed by an introduction screaming, "And now the best band from West London—B.A.D.!" The album then settles down into some good rock/disco songs until "Around the Girl in 80 Ways," a slow, romantic twist to the girlfriend/boyfriend theme. It intermingles Mick's delicate lyrics and rap from Mick, Leo "E-Zee-Kill," and Don Letts: "80 ways around the girl/ Most of them I know/ All of them are substitutes/ for feelings I don't show/ Tell her what she needs to know/ eating out, taking in a show/ walk her home, say goodnight/ you play it cool, she wonders why."

The album then explodes with the track "James Brown," a fiery disco mix which documents the King of Soul's arrest.

"High speed chase/ on my case/ radio ahead/ A.P.B. at me/ they said I shot the bed/ Road block up ahead/ Driving fast/ flashes past/ Superbad I said/ Papa's on the run/ with a Cherokee and gun/ People need a hit/ when

you're chasing No. 1"

The album cools back down with "Everybody Needs a Holiday" and "Mick's a Hippie Burning", and then comes "House Arrest," a sarcastic look at the world of disco: "Speaker pump that devil sound/ everybody getting down/ moonwalk over to the gents/ Exit zombie, many spent/ Turnstile toilets, I joined the queue/ Drinks at the bar, Drugs in the loo/ I entered Jekyll and came out Hyde/ Mt. Cheignon's inside."

The album finishes off with a ballad, "The Green Lady," and two vintage B.A.D. songs, "London Bridge" and "Stalag 123." "London Bridge" concerns itself with the falling state of England's economy, but as Mick argues, "Now Rome is Rome but it ain't home/ and neither is Paris/ Wherever I've been and all that I've seen/ This is home to me."

The album fittingly ends with "Stalag 123." "I got the studio blues/ and some other bad news/ The basement's been swamped by flood/ I got the studio blues/ and it's ruined my shoes/ My boogie's covered by mud."

It's time to finish the album and let people hear it. And this is a great album to listen to. Go buy it boy-ee!

Quake Brings Out the Best in Californians

by Garrett Kyle

reporter

As anyone who has been near a television, newspaper, or radio in the past month should know, a lethal earthquake struck San Francisco nearly a month ago on Tuesday, October 17. Measuring 7.0 on the Richter scale, it was the most powerful earthquake in the United States since 1964. As the quake struck, the heavily-traveled I-880 collapsed, a tremendous inferno broke out in the Marina district, and everywhere, buildings collapsed.

Remarkably, early estimates of over 250 dead proved false, as only 59 people were actually killed. However, property damages are estimated to be in the billions and the reconstruction could take up to three years. But for all this, quick thinking, brotherly love, and well-planned emergency procedures prevented what is already a tragedy from being much, much worse.

On the night of the quake, the crime rate plummeted to the lowest level in years. Several hotels permitted the thousands of people who had lost their homes to sleep in their lobbies. Dozens of ordinary citizens directed the clut-

tered lanes of traffic. Restaurants served free food to anyone who requested it. Courageous rescue workers labored hour after hour with very little sleep to free those who might still be trapped under the rubble.

Their toil eventually paid off nearly ninety hours later with the discovery of 57 year-old Buck Helm under the remains of I-880. Red Cross volunteers worked equally as hard, opening shelters and preparing and serving food to the hundreds of hungry survivors.

After the initial shock of what had happened passed, people came out in droves to help their less fortunate neighbors. One Red Cross director reported that she was getting so many who wanted to help that she was forced to turn people away.

Even though the earthquake is over for most, the danger is far from over. Seismologists have been proclaiming for years that earthquakes can strike at any time in California, but it is only after a disaster of this size occurs that most people pay attention. Hopefully, however, the next quake that strikes can be handled as well and as quickly as this one.

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...Recycling

ronment, and expanded projects led by the trailblazing Student Council will continue. More importantly, each individual student should recognize the importance of recycling, and, following the example of MBA, should strive to pursue a recycling effort in his own home. There is a great deal more readily recyclable material in the everyday household, and it should be the responsibility of us citizens to see that we do not let our garbage go to waste.

The Nashville area has several locations where one can deposit recyclable goods for a marginal profit, including Harris-Hillman Elemen-

tary School (26th Ave. and Blakemore) and Nashville Tech (on White Bridge Road).

So, don't sit idly by while Bordeaux fills up to its eyeballs with useful refuse! And in the words of Dr. Seuss' *The Lorax*, "I speak for the trees, for the trees have no tongues!" : I ask you all to think of the trees when you roll your next spit-wad, and, by all means, deposit it in a recycling box after it has stricken its target. Please do your part by tossing your unwanted paper in a recycling box, and make an effort to recycle your own waste at home.



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SPORTS

Microbe Cross Country
Places Fifth in HVAC Finals

by Rob Lance

reporter

The microbe cross-country team had a successful season this fall. The team started off right with the defeat of USN, BGA, and Harding in their first meet.

The second meet did not prove to be as successful as the first as the little Big Red suffered a loss to a strong Brentwood Middle School team. In the third meet, the MBA runners placed a close second behind rival Brentwood Middle School again.

In the fourth and last meet, the microbes took first place out of seven. Geared up for the HVAC finals, the microbes finished victorious over their rival Brentwood

Middle School, but second to Ensworth. The top five for MBA finished very well with Taylor Harris taking 4th, Robert West taking 10th, Andrew Love taking 13th, Rob Welhoelter taking 18th, and Phillip Guengerich as 34th.

Noticable improvements were made by all of MBA's top five as each got his best time of the season. Jonathan Fly and Kenneth Pruitt finished sixth and seventh respectively for the team, and both broke the ten-minute mark.

This year's second place finish is a only foreshadowing of next year's strength since five of the top seven will be returning as eighth graders next year.

Varsity Football Closes Season

by Alden Smith

staff reporter

After an exciting 10-0 Homecoming victory over Overton, sealed by Patrick Harkleroad's 43 yard field goal off the left hash, the MBA varsity football team was hopeful for a playoff berth three weeks later. The Big Red was in a three way tie for first place and would have to beat Hillsboro and Hillwood for a playoff opportunity. For an optimistic Big Red team, little did they know that the thrill of victory had come to an end.

MBA's efforts to spoil Hillsboro's 50th Anniversary Homecoming proved futile when MBA's offense failed to light up the scoreboard in a 14-0 loss to the Burros. Managing a victory only in

the Canned Food Drive competition, MBA was taken out of the playoff hunt.

The Big Red again went on the road to take on Hillwood, a team that had defeated Hillsboro earlier in the season. After a hard-fought 0-0 tie at the half, MBA managed only a fourteen yard scoring strike from De Thompson to Tate McDaniel, whereas Hillwood's high-powered offense exploded for twenty-eight points. The Big Red was unable to defend the Hilltopper's #24 Rahmig Ishmael on the delay pass across the middle.

But wait! The MBA football team still had a chance to avenge its last two losses, having been invited to play against Smyrna in a bowl game in McMinnville the fol-

lowing week. As fate would have it, however a scene of turmoil among Hendersonville, Franklin, Smyrna, and MBA would fail to straighten itself out until too late, leaving MBA stranded without a game.

This anticlimactic end to over three months of dedication and sacrifice was a disappointment to say the least.

Next year's team certainly should learn from two years of bowl game conflicts that the playoffs are where all the action is.

The 1989 MBA Varsity Football Team wishes to express its deepest appreciation to the coaches, cheerleaders, and students for their valued support.



The Big Red defeated Overton 10-0 during Homecoming.

Congratulation to the Junior Varsity Football Team for an undefeated record and the District title this year!



Seven MBA Students, under Mr. Womack and Miss Waugh, ventured to Lost Creek Cave on October 14th.

Pruitt's
Dictionary

Due to a lack of space in this edition of The Bell Ringer, "Pruitt's Dictionary" has been reduced, slightly.

by Justin Crosslin and Tommy Lawrence

1. Nuke! - to get rid of
2. Snu! - to eat
3. Animal - members of the family animals
4. Be that as it may! - Now!
5. Critters - organisms
6. Hack it! - term used when cutting too deep into a dissected critter.
7. Fred - name for a critter
8. massive overkill - to overdo something to a great extent
9. Borneo - a small undeveloped country next to China which the disposal tube on his desk leads to.
10. Better never than late - phrase used when being or handing in an assignment late.

Poe's Sporting
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GO BIG RED!

Freshman Football Finale

by John Teeter

staff reporter

This year's freshman football team, under the tutelage of coach Forehand and assistant coaches Herring and Mikell, made for an impressive turnaround this year. After a lowly 1-2 start, the Frosh developed the right attitude - a winning one - and came within one play of winning their district. In the district championship game with Whites Creek, the "zebras" unfortunately called a bogus

penalty on a technicality and reversed a game-winning touchdown pass from R.A. Dickey to Tom Hammling, thwarting the Frosh in their quest for the district crown. This year's team, brandishing some innovative names, included R.A. "Batman" Dickey, Shannon "Missile" Durrett, Mark "Juke Ya" Fuqua, John "Hacksaw" Arndale, Stokes "Nepalm" Palmer, Mike "Primetime" Gavigan, Andy "Bull" Ward, Joseph "Bobo" Sitton, Will

"Mandarich" Berry, Tom "Crash" Hamling, Chris "Gaius" Tribue, Clinton "The Blockless Wonder" Russel, Ford "Tractor" Simpkins, Baker "Shake and Bake" Eddie, Julian "Hit-Man" Bibb, Bobby "Shadow" Zapt, Hal "Loween" Pickle, and Jody Cummings. Congratulations to the Frosh football team for an outstanding display of leadership, winning spirit, and, of course, novel nicknames.

SPORTS

Undefeated J.V. Football Team Takes District Title

by Luke Davis

reporter

Chalk one up for the good guys.

The District title came home to MBA this October as the Junior Varsity completed its undefeated season with a 30-0 shellacking of the Hillsboro Burros.

This year's edition of J.V. Football proved to be the best in recent memory as they outscored their opponents by a whopping 157-19 in seven games. A high scoring offense was well complemented by a smothering defense, which put the dreaded goose egg on five unlucky opponents.

While the roster varied throughout the season (since some players moved to and from the varsity), the team was consistently led by quarterback "Hollywood" Joe Underwood on offense, and linebacker Michael Brooks on defense.

Joining Underwood on

offense were running backs Keith McCarty, Chris Johnston, and Eric "E" Crawford, receivers Todd "Toast" Foust, Jarratt "I scored two touchdowns" Bell, and the immortal Russell "Cobra" Acosta.

Important linemen on both sides of the ball were Ray Brooks, Jeffrey Buntin, Bo Bartholomew, and Paul "I can kick, too" Moser. Other important defenders were Jackson Wray, kick-blocker Crawford, and Morgan "Kwame" Parker, who also played quarterback.

The Big Red opened the season with a five touchdown bashing of Pearl-Cohn. The following week, they traveled to Hendersonville, where they pulled out a 14-13 victory over the Commandos.

Then the Hunters Lane Warriors went down by three touchdowns before the Big Red flattened the Father Ryan Fightin' Irish 40-0 (Yessir, dadgummit!).

Next, MBA journeyed to Whites Creek for a barn-burner. A defensive struggle ensued until a 60 yard Underwood-to-Johnston pass set up the high point of the season, a 20 yard field goal by Shad Weaver. The defense then made a crucial, last second, goal-line stand to clinch the 3-0 victory.

The following week, the J.V. beat Overton 8-6 on the strength of a safety and a missed Bobcat field goal before clinching a berth in the (mythical) J.V. Clinic Bowl by stopping Hillsboro at home.

While the J.V. should be praised for a great season, they also deserve recognition for all the extra work they did on scout team to get the varsity ready for Friday night. This year's J.V. certainly seems ready to test themselves on Varsity next year, as they have proved in having a good time winning on Monday afternoons.



Casey Jones and Keith Ikard pull out to lead the State Cross Country meet, Saturday, November 4, 1989.

photo: Charles Jones



Dan James, center, strides through tight quarters after one and three-quarter miles at the Steeplechase. James placed 49th and ran his best race in this season, his last at MBA.

photo: Andrew Duthie

Varsity X-Country Takes Fifth in State

by George Rietz

reporter

On October 26, MBA runners met at the Steeplechase to defend their Region title. There they encountered their regional rivals from Hillsboro, whom they had barely beaten the year before.

This year the MBA team reasserted its supremacy by soundly defeating strong teams from Hillsboro and David Lipscomb. Keith Ikard won the race with the fastest time in Region V history, while Casey Jones ran a superb race to finish third. Co-captain Dan James and Freshman Glenn Gaston both ran personal records, placing 31st and 33rd respectively. Justin and John Crosslin and Alex Rogers also helped MBA earn its victory in the regional meet.

On a sunny Saturday two weeks later, the 1989 team assembled for the last time at the state meet. As the team stretched, the course filled with spectators and the toughest runners in Tennessee.

As the gun went off, Ikard and Jones settled into fifth and sixth places, then moved into first and second at the mile pole. After 2.5 miles, favorite Benny Dix built a 15-yard lead, but collapsed in the final yards of the race. Shortly thereafter, David

Sexton challenged Ikard and the two battled until the final hill, where Sexton pulled away. Fearing that Benny Dix would recover, our heroes (Ikard and Jones) dashed madly for the finish, placing 2nd (15:37) and 3rd (15:45), respectively.

Not far behind was a very motivated Dan James, who ran the fastest race of his life by a full 14 seconds to place 49th overall. Freshman Glenn Gaston also ran a personal best of 17:26 to finish fourth for MBA. Justin Crosslin and Matt Zibas followed shortly with freshman John Crosslin a few seconds behind them.

Because of the efforts of the whole team, MBA finished fifth in the state behind Dobyns Bennett, Oak Ridge, Knox Farragut, and Brentwood Academy.

Although the 1990 team will lose the efforts of Dan James, as well as seniors Brandon Barrett, Andrew Duthie, and David Lott, six of the top seven runners will be returning. Jones and Ikard should lead the team, with strong backup from the Crosslin brothers, Glenn Gaston, Matt Zibas, and hopefully a revamped George Rietz. With this in mind, the Big Red should have an even better state finish next year.

Good luck to the
1989-1990 Varsity
Basketball Team!
-from a friend

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